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SUBJECT Marilyn Monroe and the CIA

FLOYD DONALD: A theory that actress Marilyn Monroe was murdered by the CIA and was not a suicide victim, is coming to the fore again, as we hear in this report from Laurie Lerner.

LAURIE LERNER: Marlo Spreglio [?] says he's convinced Marilyn Monroe did not commit suicide but was murdered because she was about to tell what she knew about CIA-backed attempts to kill Castro. Spreglio, who spent more than a decade investigating the death, says recently demoted LA County Coroner Thomas Naguchi [?] ignored evidence pointing to murder when he conducted the autopsy in 1962.

MARLO SPREGLIO: There is a diary that was last seen in the coroner's office on the date of Marilyn Monroe's death. The following day it just disappeared and it was stricken off the inventory. It makes a lot of references to the Kennedys and people involved in what we believe to be a murder-coverup.

LERNER: Thursday marks the 20th anniversary of the death of the sex goddess, and Spreglio plans to hold a news conference on Wednesday demanding that the case be reopened.

SPREGLIO: When I first entered the case approximately ten years ago, I believed that Marilyn Monroe did, in fact, commit suicide. But since my lengthy investigation, I determined beyond all reasonable doubt that Marilyn Monroe was murdered and did not commit suicide.

LERNER: Who murdered her?

SPREGLIO: We believe that she was murdered by a vashion [?] of the CIA.

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LERNER: Why, because of some alleged involvement with the Kennedys?

SPREGLIO: Well, as to the involvement, I'll hold that till the press conference, if you don't mind.

LERNER: Once again, that press conference is on Wednesday. Stay tuned.

I'm Laurie Lerner in Los Angeles, reporting for the Pacific News Service.